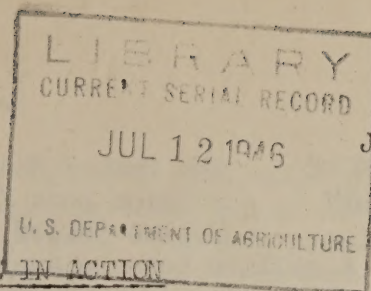


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United States Department of Agriculture  
Production and Marketing Administration  
Field Service Branch, Northeast Region  
Washington 25, D. C.



July 3, 1946

Dear Committeemen:

The information included in this letter is to assist you in the administration of Production and Marketing Administration programs and provide understanding of related actions.

*A. W. Manchester*

A. W. Manchester

Director, Northeast Region

**CHANGES IN PMA  
PROGRAMS, JULY 1**

The expiration of OPA regulations at midnight June 30 brought several changes in farm commodity programs handled by the USDA Production and Marketing Administration.

A statement by the Department of Agriculture explaining the changes said that additional announcements concerning these programs will be made as soon as the price situation is clarified.

Some of the more important program changes announced as of July 1: WHEAT --  
Immediate suspension of the requirement that farmers must sell one-half of the wheat they deliver to country elevators. The Commodity Credit Corporation will continue to offer to buy wheat at market prices not exceeding the ceilings existing June 30.

MEAT -- Set-asides of meat by packing plants for Government purchase reduced to zero. Slaughter quotas for Federally-inspected plants terminated.

The Department said that the following orders and programs will continue in effect:

--Set-asides on evaporated milk, Cheddar cheese, and nonfat dry milk. Half the July production of evaporated milk must be set aside for sale to Government agencies. Cheddar cheese set-aside during July and August will be 40 percent of production, same as in May and June. No Government set-aside will be required against creamery butter produced after June 30. Civilians will receive all U. S. production.

--War food orders relating to fats and oils.

--1945-crop program contracts for soybeans and peanuts.

--Sugar rationing and allocations.

--Dairy production payments to producers will be continued if price control is renewed and if Congress makes money available for the payments.

--USDA will continue through July to lend wheat to mills in hardship cases so they can supply areas where consumer bread supplies are short of the reduced emergency levels. About 7.5 million bushels of wheat released to millers through June 24.

--Corn from Government-owned grain will be loaned wet corn millers, in exchange for wheat, to enable operation on a minimum basis up to August 1.

--War time bans were reinstituted July 1 on deliveries to consumers of whipping cream with butterfat content in excess of 19 percent. Purpose is to make more butterfat available for other uses -- including butter.



WHEAT GOAL FOR FAMINE  
RELIEF ABROAD IS MET

The United States has shipped a record-smashing 5½ million tons (205,300,000 bushels) of wheat abroad for famine relief during the last 6 months and will meet its half-year goal of 6 million tons in another 3 weeks.

This message of achievement has been given to the nation by President Truman who praised the "splendid cooperation of Americans in conserving bread at home and in public eating places, the remarkable production of American farmers, the unstinting cooperation of millers and bakers, and the united efforts of the Famine Emergency Committee and the various agencies of our Government."

The report said that the last 500,000 tons of wheat needed to meet the 6-month goal already is in possession of the Government and should be on ships by late July.

In addition to the wheat shipments, 423,000 tons (16,920,000 bushels) of corn purchased under the bonus plan during April and May have been exported for famine relief during May and June. Export shipments of other corn, rye, barley, and oats since January 1 total 294,500 long tons, further evidence of this country's contribution to relieve famine.

Approximately one-third of the wheat exported since January 1 was in the form of flour.

Wheat shipped during the next 3 weeks to complete the 6-million-ton goal will not be deducted from the 250 million bushels of grain we have scheduled for export during the crop year beginning July 1.

1947 WHEAT GOAL  
SLIGHTLY ABOVE THIS YEAR

Farmers are being asked to seed another big acreage of wheat for next year's harvest. The Department of Agriculture has announced a national goal of 71,700,000 seeded acres for 1947 harvest.

This goal is about 1 percent larger than the 71,057,000 acres planted for 1946 harvest and would be the largest acreage since 1938. State goals will be announced later.

Officials pointed out that while the proposed 1947 acreage is larger than desirable for proper long-time land utilization and conservation, the world food situation requires all the wheat that can be produced in 1947.

If 1947 yields equal those of the last few years, the goal would produce a fourth successive wheat crop of more than 1,000,000,000 bushels in this country. If yields should fall to the 1935-44 average, the 1947 goal would produce around 930 million bushels.

\* \* \*

Britain's Food Minister John Strachey announced June 27 that Britain would ration bread and flour beginning July 26. Nine ounces daily will be the ration for adults, with 2 to 8 ounces for children and 15 ounces for manual workers. The remainder of the weekly food ration is about the same as during the war.



**SCHOOL LUNCH PROGRAM GROWS** School children of the United States will be assured adequate and nutritious food under the National School Lunch Act signed recently by President Truman. The date marks the beginning of a new era in farmer-consumer relationships, according to Robert H. Shields, PMA Administrator.

After running 11 years on a year-to-year basis and without State financial support, the new law is now a regular item of Federal expenditure, with provision for State assistance on a matching-of-funds plan.

Begun in 1935 as a means of utilizing surplus foods, with funds from Section 32 of the Agricultural Adjustment Act, school lunch programs on April 30, 1946, included 44,000 schools with over 7 million children in all States.

The program aims to encourage better nutrition in feeding growing children. It also aims to assure outlets for food surpluses and to better distribution when buying power is retarded and proper diets might suffer.

School lunches are not original with the United States. France was the first country to provide lunches on a national scale — a movement begun in 1949. Holland, Switzerland, and England started aid in school lunches early in the 1900's.

Today national legislation supports school lunches in England, Scotland, Denmark, Italy, Finland, Austria, Belgium, Russia, and Spain. Lunches are provided by municipal legislation in Germany, Norway, and Sweden.

American people were awakened to the need for school lunches in this country, when during the depression of the 30's, children came to school hungry. Federal aid seemed to be the logical answer.

Mr. Shields sees in the National School Lunch Act a happy device for improving farm income through improved national health. "Food is eaten best by those who need it most," Mr. Shields commented. "I can think of no better candidates for the best foods our farms can produce than our school children. They are our America of tomorrow."

**INCREASES SUGGESTED FOR 1947 WINTER VEGETABLES** The Department of Agriculture is suggesting that winter vegetable producers increase the 1947 combined acreage of 17 specified vegetables by 4 percent above the 1946 indicated acreage for those crops.

The recommendations are in the form of production guides which will be adapted to local conditions in each State.

Supplies of fertilizer for 1946-47 are expected to be about the same as in 1945-46. Containers, except shock, also should be in fairly good supply. Increased supplies of insecticides and equipment for applying them also are expected.

\* \* \*

Scrap drive. -- Farms, industrial and Government-owned plants will be checked as possible sources of scrap iron and steel under drive agreed on by the Civilian Production Administration and industry advisory committee.



APPROPRIATION ACT SIGNED

The 1947 Agriculture Appropriation Act was signed by the President June 22. The act provides a total of \$1,190,049,858, either appropriated, reappropriated, or authorized to be borrowed from RFC for FSA and REA loans. \$314,246,000 is appropriated under "Conservation and Use of Agricultural Land Resources" -- \$300 million for the 1946 ACP, \$12.5 million for additional payments for harvesting grass and legume seeds, \$1,146,000 for measuring acreages of tobacco under quotas. (CCC and FCIC funds are included in the Government Corporations Appropriation Bill, passed by the House June 13 and now before the Senate.)

JORDAN RESIGNS AS CHAIRMAN  
OF MASS. STATE PMA COMMITTEE

Charlie B. Jordan, prominent agricultural leader, Holden, Massachusetts, has announced his resignation as chairman of the Massachusetts State Committee of the Production and Marketing Administration, effective June 30, following 10 years of service in that capacity.

His resignation was submitted because of poor health. In addition to these duties, he served during the wartime as chairman of the United States Department of Agriculture War Board in Massachusetts and was a member of the recently organized USDA Council.

Jordan was president of the Massachusetts Farm Bureau for seven years and has held important positions on various committees interested in agriculture appointed by the Governor and farm organizations.

"It is rare that so many honors have been conferred on an agricultural leader as have been conferred on Mr. Jordan and his responsibilities have been faithfully and competently discharged in every duty assigned," said S. R. Parker, State Director of PMA. "His leadership in agriculture has been outstanding and he was able to secure cooperation from all allied agencies through his honesty, sincerity, and straightforward method of administering all programs under his direction."

FAO ESTABLISHES  
FORESTRY BRANCH

Supplying the wood needs of the world is a world program, not a regional or national one, according to Lyle F. Watts, Forest Service chief, in speaking of the establishment of the Branch of Forestry and Forest Products in the Food and Agriculture Organization.

World timber shortages which have been in the process of development for centuries have become a threat to world reconstruction. Through the cooperative action of the United Nations, however, world supply and demand eventually will be brought into balance.

The new organization will set up world-wide forestry statistical services, assist governments with advice on forest policy, send out missions to make scientific studies, promote research and circulate findings among nations, and facilitate exchange of scientific personnel.

\* \* \*

"Armed guards were needed to protect the first consignments of UNRRA food and clothing unloaded in the Philippines," according to Glen Briggs of UNRRA. "There was an excessive black market on every hand. Before evaporated milk cargoes were landed the current retail price of available supplies in stores was \$5 (10 pesos) per No. 2 can, and within a few days after the American milk arrived the price fell to 80 cents. Bread in a similar way fell from about 50 cents a loaf, to 15 cents following the importation of our flour."



Radio Transcription  
A. W. Manchester, Director  
Northeast Region, Field Service Branch  
Production & Marketing Administration, USDA  
July 4, 1946 -- 6:15 a.m.  
Station WBZ - Boston, Mass.

Things certainly do change -- laws, regulations, prices, plenty and shortages come and go the last few days in a confusing whirl. It seems hard to say much of anything and be sure that it will be true tomorrow.

It is a bit reassuring, though, to remember that we declared our independence in 1776. That's 170 years ago. And as a whole, we've been going ahead pretty steadily ever since.

It hasn't always been easy. Often sickening and senseless setbacks have left people discouraged and bewildered like a lot of us are today.

There have been black days for the progressive and public-spirited, over and over again. Sometimes our progress has wavered and we have temporarily lost ground. More often, bright hopes of rapid progress have been darkened.

But through it all, our general progress has been forward. There is no reason to think that we shan't still go on -- inch by inch of hard-won gain -- toward a world of better opportunity for each.

As a matter of fact, I have schooled myself to the belief that it is better that way. The great joys, the great achievements, lie in overcoming that which is hard -- in gaining ahead bit by bit in spite of reverses and hardships. That is part of what makes life really worth the best that is in us.

I think that in appraising progress, we in agriculture can feel that we too have shared fairly in the good fight and the victories.

I'm not thinking alone of the technical progress that has made every good farmer a scientist and an engineer, marvelous as that has been.

Nor am I thinking alone of the advance in efficiency and productivity, that has made it possible for us to be at once the best fed nation and the greatest helper of the hungry beyond our shores in the history of the world, at the same time that we have released from agriculture the men and the women to make us the world's greatest industrial nation.

I am thinking, too, of the progress that has been made toward those great goals of freedom from want and freedom from fear on the farms of the country.

The battle for those things on the farms is not completely won. Nor will it ever be. It is a part of the battle to win them for all our people. Like the bigger battle of which it is a part, the generations after us will have to carry on their part of the fight and the generations that follow them. It will never be entirely and permanently won. For greed and thirst for power and ignorance and carelessness are ingrained in human nature.



## Radio Transcription (Continued)

But progress has been rapid.

We now have assurances of public support of stable fair prices and incomes for farmers that were almost undreamed of 20 years ago.

And we have on a great scale public cooperation with farmers in making their farms permanently better so that they and their children may have more and more to sell every year at those fair prices. And that the people of the country -- and the world -- may have more and better food to buy every year at those fair prices.

Freedom from want and from fear on our farms require dependable yields and dependable prices. We are nearer them today than ever before.

That is worth thinking about, I think, on this Independence Day when it would be easy to feel that we are a hopeless distance from the realization of the bright dreams we cherished during the war.

We may not go ahead as fast as we hoped, but we can still go ahead and it's "good fighting."

\* \* \*

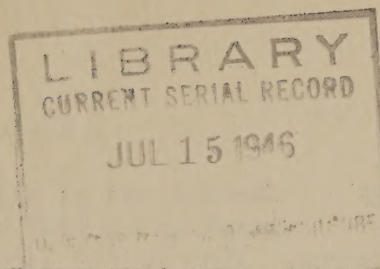
(Agriculture in Action - Issued weekly and distributed in the Northeast to State PMA Committeemen, State Office of PMA; Farmer Fieldmen, County Offices in Mass., Conn., Penna., N.J., and N.H.; County Committeemen in N.J., Penna., N.H., and R.I.)



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United States Department of Agriculture  
Production and Marketing Administration  
Field Service Branch, Northeast Region  
Washington 25, D. C.



July 10, 1946

AGRICULTURE IN ACTION

Dear Committeemen:

The information included in this letter is to assist you in the administration of Production and Marketing Administration programs and provide understanding of related actions.

*A. W. Manchester*

A. W. Manchester  
Director, Northeast Region

**EARLY POTATO  
PURCHASES MOUNT**

The Department of Agriculture has purchased more than 15,000 carloads of early potatoes from the record 75 million-bushel crop. Purchases to support prices are being made in Arizona, California, Virginia, Florida, the Carolinas, Kansas, Louisiana, Alabama, and Oklahoma.

In New Jersey and Long Island, New York, where potato digging is just starting, purchase representatives appointed by County Agricultural Conservation Association Committees are prepared to put into operation a purchase program should it become necessary to support the price. The Field Service Branch, PMA, is handling field operations on potato purchase program through the county offices.

In order to improve market prices of potatoes of U. S. No. 1 quality and premium grades, growers and dealers are being asked to withhold culls and lower grades from consumer trade. Potatoes purchased in support of the market price by the Government will consist largely of all grades loaded in bulk for shipment. Such potatoes will be diverted to alcohol production. Since early potatoes have little starch content, not many are being diverted to starch.

Consumption as potatoes, potato flour, and smaller outlets is expected to absorb about 65 million bushels of the big crop. However, supplies are expected to exceed demands until some time in September.

Any local potato shortages will be the result of a car shortage or rainy weather which prevents harvesting. Use of abundant supplies of early potatoes will require extra efforts of industry, carriers, and Government agencies.

**1337 CARS OF FEED  
ORDERED FOR NORTHEAST**

Through July 8 orders have been placed for the shipment of 1337 cars of feed ingredients to relieve the critical feed shortage in New York, New Jersey, and New England.

A large proportion of these cars was shipped prior to June 30 when price controls were lifted with the exception of orders for barley made available by maltsters. Of the 450 cars of barley available, 237 had been shipped June 30.

Due to the Department of Agriculture's policy of not offering more than the maximum permitted price as of June 30 for these feed ingredients, it is doubtful that the balance of the barley orders will be filled.



#### WORLD FOOD PROSPECTS

Careful use of all food products must continue, at least until 1947 crops are in, to keep hunger and famine from becoming even worse. That is the lesson to be drawn from the Department of Agriculture's latest report on world food prospects.

"Even with larger production, total supplies of available food products during 1946-47 will not be much above those of a year earlier," says the report, "and careful utilization of all food products must be continued to avoid a critical food shortage prior to availability of 1947 crops."

Growing conditions in the Northern Hemisphere were reported "substantially better" in mid-June than a year earlier. But food reserves at the start of the current harvest season will be a low level. Moreover, total acreage planted to food crops is still below prewar. Yields are being restricted by shortages — of fertilizer, draft power, and other facilities. Thus, "the world production of food in 1946-47 will be somewhat larger than the relatively low levels of 1945-46, but will be definitely below prewar, particularly on a per capita basis."

#### NEW JERSEY COMPLETES 1945 ACP PAYMENTS

For the period ending June 28, 1946, New Jersey reported 100 percent of the total estimated 1945 Agricultural Conservation Program payments certified. The Regional total was 83.1 percent. Individual State figures follow: Maine, \$268,239 - 85.1%; New Hampshire, \$40,103 - 72.9%; Vermont, \$165,011 - 75.5%; Massachusetts, \$245,925 - 78.9%; Rhode Island, \$11,853 - 75.4%; Connecticut, \$113,870 - 62.2%; New York, \$1,463,149; New Jersey, \$834,574 - 100%; Pennsylvania, \$1,623,892 - 85.5%.

#### FARM MACHINERY PRODUCTION SHOWS GAIN

July production of farm machinery is expected to exceed the production peak set in January, the Civilian Production Administration reports. A recently established self-certification program providing priorities on steel for farm machinery became effective this month.

May farm machinery output increased to almost \$58.5 million, a 20 percent gain over April. This was due largely to the settlement of a strike at the International Harvester Company plants. Production is still handicapped by continuation of labor-management disputes at the J. I. Case Company (in effect more than six months) and the Allis-Chalmers Manufacturing Company (closed down since early May).

Of particular interest to farmers is the sharp gain in wheel tractor production which reached 20,934 units in May compared with 11,825 in April and 16,972 in May 1945. May output also showed a 49 percent increase in harvesting machinery, a 38 percent gain in machinery for preparing crops, and a 14 percent gain in cultivators and weeders.

#### HEAVY LEGUME AND GRASS SEED HARVEST NEEDED

"We have to plan and prepare now for greater livestock production a few years from now," N. E. Dodd, Under Secretary of Agriculture, told a nation-wide radio audience in explaining the need for a heavy 1946 legume and grass seed harvest. "Grass and legume seed harvested this summer can be seeded in 1947 — will make hay and pasture in 1948 — and meat and milk and butter in 1949. Grasses and legumes not only furnish the hay and pasture for our livestock, they also help furnish the soil fertility necessary for continuing heavy farm production."



Radio Transcription  
A. W. Manchester, Director  
Northeast Region, Field Service Branch  
Production & Marketing Admin., USDA  
July 11, 1946 - 6:15 a.m.  
Station WBZ - Boston, Mass.

The uncertainty about future prices that naturally prevails while Congress is working on legislation covering price control, inevitably leaves Northeastern farmers up in the air. They don't have any monopoly of that position. It is shared by most of the consumers as well as the producers of the country.

However, the bigger uncertainties of all of us are presumably short lived. Whatever the legislation or lack of it, once the matter is settled, it will be possible to look forward with a good deal more confidence.

We may like what we see ahead or we may not, but at any rate, there will be some satisfaction in having a firmer basis for planning.

That will be particularly true for Northeastern poultrymen. Nobody that I know has gone through as much in this period of doubt and still faces as threatening uncertainties as do they.

To say that their problem is more one of feed than of prices just now is only a part truth. For a substantial part of the feed problem is caused by prices.

There is, of course, a physical shortage of feed in the country. But how short that shortage is depends largely on prices.

Most of the feed that is in existence is much more accessible to the hog raisers and beef feeders than it is to New England poultrymen. In fact, a good deal of it is already owned by hog or beef men. They raised it and have it in their bins and cribs as reserves against their future needs. In areas where crops are abnormally uncertain, many feeders keep a whole year's supply ahead.

The quantity that they will offer on the market depends on what they think the price of pork is going to be -- or the profits in feeding beef. High corn and moderate priced pork means more grain for Eastern feeders. High priced pork, means more pigs, bigger pigs and less corn to sell.

There has been some marketing of grain at the much higher prices of the last few days. Some rush to market to liquidate holdings at the higher prices in anticipation of price ceilings is even possible.

Up to now it looks like a good crop year. We could have a bumper corn crop. The small grains are yielding high. There is likely to be a lot of feed produced this year.

In spite of present low reserves, we could have enough grain to maintain a modest poultry industry in the Northeast -- if demands are not too high closer to the places where the grain is grown.



Radio Transcription - continued

There are some grounds for hope on that side of the picture. The number of sows bred for fall litters of pigs is supposed to be down about 16 percent from a year ago.

The number of beef cattle in the country is still high, although it can't be enough to continuously supply our markets with all the beef American consumers want, when American consumers can afford to buy all they want.

But beef cattle can be marketed pretty young or raised to larger size and what is done about that depends a good deal on prices.

The total number of beef cattle makes up a food reservoir. It can be drawn down by rapid marketing, if the combination of prices makes that attractive. In that case, consumers have all the beef they want for awhile, with shortage coming up in the future. And there is more grain for the market.

Or prices can keep cattle back from the market. If there is plenty of grass and the cattle are held on grass, that doesn't deplete grain supplies, but if they are fed long on feed lots, that does cut into grain reserves. In this case, prices tend to keep the market undersupplied now, but with bigger eventual supplies. And Northeastern poultrymen will have less grain.

These price uncertainties affect the quantity of grain that the poultrymen can buy if they want to.

How much they will want to buy will be equally a matter of prices. The industry can be destroyed equally as thoroughly, though not as dramatically, by too high grain prices as compared with the prices of meat and eggs as it can by no grain.

About the best that can be offered poultrymen for the next few days is the hope that they can hold on until price policies are clarified and, I hope, prices are steadied down a little.

Once that happens, they will have a much better basis for estimating what lies ahead and for deciding on what scale they are going to try to stay in the business.

\* \* \*

(Agriculture in Action - Issued weekly and distributed in the Northeast to State PMA Committeemen, State Offices of PMA; Farmer Fieldmen, County Offices in Mass., Conn., Penna., N.J., and N.H.; County Committeemen in N.J., Penna., N.H., and R.I.)



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Production and Marketing Administration  
Field Service Branch, Northeast Region  
Washington 25, D.C.

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AGRICULTURE IN ACTION

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Dear Committeemen:

The information included in this letter is to assist you in the administration of Production and Marketing Administration programs and provide understanding of related actions.

*A. W. Manchester*

A. W. Manchester

Director, Northeast Region

1947 AGRICULTURAL CONSERVATION  
PROGRAM IS ANNOUNCED

Increased local responsibility for carrying out practices will be the major change in the 1947 Agricultural Conservation Program.

For the first time, the program allows up to 10 percent of county conservation funds to carry out practices not included in the State lists.

The 10 percent feature of the 1947 program, together with changes made in 1946, when counties got the go-ahead on plans to adapt State practices to specific needs of individual farms, puts additional responsibility upon farmers and county committeemen for shaping an ACP plan to fit local needs.

Dave Davidson, Director of the Field Service Branch, PMA, explains that greater emphasis on the local approach should help make some needed shifts -- from practices which were necessary for quick wartime production to those of greater long-term value.

"We had to greatly increase the acreage of some soil-depleting crops during the war," said Davidson. "We cannot continue to grow them on such a scale indefinitely without permanently damaging our land. Record production one year, or for a few years, doesn't necessarily mean record production over the long haul. Our goal is continuing high production year after year. Conservation farming is the only way to achieve such a goal."

Authority for a \$314 million 1947 ACP program has been granted by Congress under the Agricultural Appropriation Act of 1947. The money is to assist farmers and ranchers in carrying out soil and water conservation practices and in harvesting grass and legume seeds. The appropriation pays administrative costs of the program. It is the same approximate size as the 1946 program.

HIGHER PRICES WON'T MEAN  
MORE FOOD THIS YEAR

Higher prices won't make much difference in the total supply of food available this year. Neither will higher prices have much effect on the amount

of food available for civilians unless the price increases force a curtailment of food exports, according to the Bureau of Agricultural Economics.

A boost in prices, however, would tend to change the distribution of available supplies among various sections of the country and among income groups.



1946 CROPS MAY SET RECORD      Crop estimates on July 1 reveal an indicated U. S. farm production that may exceed the record high of 1942. Total crop production 3.6 higher than 1945 and 24 percent above the 1923-32 average is indicated by the July estimate.

Leading the list is an estimated all-time high in corn production for this year. Wheat promises to be the third in a row of the nation's billion bushel wheat crops. Oats production is indicated far above the ten-year average and is out-ranked only by the record 1945 crop.

Even though production of barley and rye is down considerably, feed grain supplies are expected to meet feeding needs during the coming year.

High prospective production of other crops round out the generally excellent crop picture. Potatoes, rice, vegetables, citrus, and other fruits promise to equal or be above average production. Sugar production should be about one-fourth larger than 1945 with substantial increases in sugar beets more than offsetting a small decrease in sugar cane acreage.

One dark part of the 1946 production picture is a sharp decrease in much-needed oil-bearing crops. Flax acreage is considerably less than a year ago and soybean plantings are the lowest since 1941, although still larger than any prewar year. Peanut acreage is slightly lower than last year.

Prospective dry bean production, while above last year, is still below average. Sweet potatoes show a slight decrease. Cotton acreage is slightly higher than last year when it was at the lowest point in 60 years.

Milk and egg production is holding up well although eggs dropped 6 percent in June below June, 1945.

An all-time record corn production of 3.3 billion bushels is in sight due to prospective yields averaging 36.5 bushels per acre, an increase of 3.4 bushels per acre over 1945. Planted corn acreage is the same as last year.

Prospects for spring wheat harvest are 67,000,000 bushels below last year but estimates for winter wheat continue to climb as the harvest nears completion. Winter wheat is now forecast at 857,163,000 bushels and spring wheat at 232,929,000. The total wheat forecast is for 1,090,092,000 bushels, only 33,000,000 less than last year.

"HERE IN THE NORTHEAST," A. W. Manchester pointed out in his July 18 radio talk over Station WBZ, Boston, "we have made some small increases in grain acreage. In the nine Northeastern States, corn plantings are up about four percent, with well toward two-thirds of the increase in New York State. Oats are up about 10 percent, again with the principal increase in New York.

"As to other crops, we have in July the first national report on potatoes. At the moment, it looks as though Maine were going to do it again. The forecasted production of 62 million bushels for that State is not the biggest production on record. However, it is a tremendous one -- well toward 10 million bushels over last year and 17 million over the 10-year average. If the weather stays favorable, getting a crop of that size dug and stored and utilized is going to strain the best abilities of everybody concerned.

(continued on page 3)



(continued from page 2)

"One other Northeastern State that is worth mentioning because of the amount of change in the size of the potato crop, is Rhode Island. Something over 1 1/2 million bushels is estimated for the production of that State. That is pretty well along toward twice the 10-year average. Rhode Island may not be spectacular in its total production as compared with the bigger States, but its rate of expansion in potato growing the last few years, it has kept up with any State, with the exception of California.

"It is fortunate, too, that together with that good weather, we have better fertilized and protected soils than ever before. Our bumper crops this year are the result of high yields, rather than further expanded acreages. Those yields come largely from a combination of good weather and good soil fertility programs. Most of the increases that we can make in the future in crop production are apt to come through increasing still more our yields per acre. That's the only road to food enough for everybody.

"It is fortunate indeed that we have made as good a start as we have in laying the foundations for higher yields and that we made it as soon as we did. We could not have met the food problem of this war and the peace that follows it without the Agricultural Conservation soil programs of the last dozen years."

#### FAMINE EMERGENCY COMMITTEE SEES CONTINUING FOOD NEED

The U. S. soon will meet its goal for cereal exports from the 1945 crop, but any feeling that the world food crisis has been ended by that success is wholly unwarranted, Chester C. Davis, chairman of the President's Famine Emergency Committee said. Mass starvation has been combatted successfully to date only through the export of food in huge volume from the U. S. and other countries, Mr. Davis said, and warned that exports must continue on a large scale at least through September to hold the gains already made.

The U. S. has maintained a large flow of grain to famine areas. Exports during the first half of 1946 totaled 3,549,000 long tons, and by the end of July, the export goal of 3,000,000 long tons will have been reached. These large totals were attained only through closest management of supplies by the Government and by commendable self-denial on the part of the American people. A steady flow of exports must be maintained at least until Oct. 1., when Northern Hemisphere crops will be generally available in famine areas.

Conditions after October 1 will depend very largely upon the harvests. It has been estimated that world cereal supplies during the coming year will fail to meet requirements, even on a restricted consumption basis, by 10 million tons -- 375 million bushels. Exports of grain and other foods from this country undoubtedly will be required during the 12 months beginning October 1, though it seems unlikely now that such exports will approach in volume those of the preceding 12 months. The Committee emphasizes its belief that the world food situation through 1947 will call for a continuation of the vigorous voluntary food-conservation measures now being carried on by the American people.

#### FARM WAGES AND EMPLOYMENT RISE

Wage rates of hired farm workers continue to climb. On July 1, they were 8 percent higher than a year ago. The number of workers on farms July 1 was about 7 percent larger than last year at the same time. Farm wage rates are now the highest on record, increasing about 10 percent since April 1, which is about double the usual increase for this period.



GOVERNMENT ACTIONS

Dried Whole Eggs -- USDA purchased 2,583,000 pounds of dried whole eggs under the Department export program, at prices up to \$1.11 a pound, for July delivery. This purchase brought the total to more than 70 million pounds for export.

WFO 144 (Flour Production Order) -- USDA authorized a slight increase in the quantity of flour that may be produced by millers for domestic distribution beginning July 1.

Fats and Oils -- Allocations of edible fats and oils including lard, margarine, shortening, and other oils, for civilians will be about 11 percent smaller in the third quarter than in the second quarter of 1946, due to seasonal production declines.

Livestock Slaughter -- The amount of livestock that may be slaughtered under Control Order # 2 is unrestricted for the July period, OIA announced. This action was taken to permit non-federally-inspected plants to acquire and slaughter their proportionate share of the larger number of livestock currently moving to markets. It permits unlimited slaughtering of livestock by licensed Class 2 slaughterers during the current accounting period beginning June 24.

WORLD FOOD CRISIS IS NOT  
NEAR END - FITZGERALD

D. A. FitzGerald, Secretary-General of the International Emergency Food Council, has stressed that the world has not yet emerged from the food crisis.

Dr. FitzGerald, formerly of USDA, said: "We are hopeful that the new harvests in these countries will be better than those of last year. In Europe, particularly in Western Europe and the Mediterranean countries, crops seem certain to be better.

"However, European crop acreages are still below prewar, and yields are limited by lack of fertilizer and other production facilities. Even if Europe can get imports almost as large as last year, good management will be essential to make the total food supplies last until the 1947 harvest.

"However, I prefer not to hazard a guess this early in the growing season," FitzGerald said. "Poor harvests would further the gap, good harvests would narrow the gap, but only phenomenally good harvests all over the world would provide any chance of closing it."

COOPERATION OF GOVERNMENT  
AND FOOD INDUSTRY NEEDED

Development of new marketing technique through Government cooperation with the food industry was urged by Robert H. Shields, PMA Administrator, in addressing the New York City Food Advisory Committee recently.

The lapse of price controls, Mr. Shields declared, makes closer cooperation between Government, civic groups, and the food industry more important, particularly in the distribution field. He asserted that there were "more legislative tools to spur production than there are to aid marketing."

"Many of you have been urging that things would be better if more power was in your hands," he declared. "It may be soon and I would remind you of the responsibility that goes with power."

He explained that Government allocations and rationing "cannot do the job by itself in times of short supply in the absence of price control."



STARK HEADS UP  
EMERGENCY FOOD PROGRAM

Emphasizing that there will be no slackening of relief efforts during the critical weeks ahead, the Department of Agriculture has announced that Paul C. Stark, Director of the Food Distribution Programs Branch of PMA and of the National Garden Program, will also assume the duties of Director of the Office of Emergency Food Program. Mr. Stark succeeds Walter F. Straub, who has resigned to return to private business.

It is hoped that after September 1 necessary famine relief activities can be carried on by the regular agencies of the Department. Maximum food production and conservation will be needed, however, at least until 1947 crops are harvested.

THE BINS WERE EMPTIED American wheat farmers came within an eyelash of sweeping their bins absolutely clean in response to the famine crisis. The Department of Agriculture reports that on July 1 the stocks of old wheat on U. S. farms were only 3.8 percent of 1945 production compared with a 10-year average of 10.6 percent for that date. A year ago the percentage was 8.3 of old wheat still on farms.

The reserve of 42.7 million bushels on July 1 was the smallest since 1937 with a record disappearance of 161 million bushels between April 1 and June 30.

WE ATE MORE AND BETTER IN  
WAR II THAN IN WAR I

United States civilians ate 10 to 15 percent more food per person during World War II than during World War I. A study by the Bureau of Agricultural Economics also shows that the average diet during the last war was much better nutritionally than for World War I. Our consumption of citrus fruits, tomatoes, green and yellow vegetables, and dairy products (excluding butter) was much larger in 1942-45 than in 1917-18. The only food groups where consumption was less were potatoes and grain products.

FARMERS OFFER MARKET  
FOR INDUSTRY

The enlarged farm market for the goods of industry should play an important part in bolstering the nation's post-war economy, according to Current Business, a publication of the Department of Commerce.

The article emphasized the close economic interdependence between farming and business communities and pointed out that no sustained prosperity can be obtained unless both prosper. High wartime earnings of American labor enabled millions of persons to enjoy for the first time something like an adequate diet and satisfactory dress, the survey continued.

The publication pointed to a huge \$10,000,000,000 backlog of cash and securities in farmers' hands and to the 200 percent increase in net farm income during wartime.

The eventual size of the post-war market among farmers will depend in part whether farm savings go into purchase of goods or are diverted into farm property speculations.

Farm prosperity should continue well into 1948, but after that there is no assurance that the old farm problem — lack of adequate markets and hidden farm unemployment — may not again appear, the Department of Commerce said. The best insurance of continued farm prosperity lies in an adequate number of jobs in business and industry with continued business prosperity and a high level of wages so people can continue to buy farm products.



HENRY ALDRICH OFFERS  
1000 BUSHELS OF WHEAT  
FOR FAMINE RELIEF

at Washington Crossing, Pennsylvania.

Among the personal contributions to the famine relief program is the recent offer of Ezra Stone, known to radio fans as "Henry Aldrich," to donate 1000 bushels of wheat to UNRRA. Mr. Stone's farm is

12,835 50-LB. CRATES OF  
CABBAGE PURCHASED BY  
USDA IN N.Y., N.J., CONN.

Since July 1, under the USDA purchase program for surplus cabbage, 12,835 50-lb. crates or sacks have been purchased in the Northeast as follows: New York, 5,845; New Jersey, 5,576; and Connecticut, 1,464.

Ohio and South Carolina reported 945 and 1500 50-lb. crates respectively. The program is also in effect in Pennsylvania and Massachusetts and New Mexico although no purchases have yet been reported.

Prices of fresh cabbage have been depressed by heavy production in the late spring group of States which produced an estimated 92,600 tons for the fresh market in 1946 as compared with only 65,300 tons in 1945 and a 10-year average of 57,800 tons. Of the States in this group, southeastern Ohio, where purchases were authorized in June, is expected to be still harvesting in July, while some of the later producing districts in North Carolina and Virginia will be shipping in July. Prospective production in New Jersey and Long Island, the only Northeastern producing areas in the early summer group of States for which production figures are now available, has increased and is now estimated at 42,100 tons, compared with 38,700 tons last year and a 10-year average of 34,900 tons.

Purchases will be restricted to the capacity of available outlets through August 15, 1946 in a total quantity of not more than 50,000 50-lb. sacks. Distribution will be made to eligible institutions or for use in school lunches.

Efforts are being continued to stimulate consumption of cabbage by means of consumer publicity in important marketing areas.

POTATO PURCHASES

It looks as though potato purchases would begin soon in New Jersey and Long Island. Latest word is that digging and shipping is well underway; quality, good, and yields are high. Market prices are reported to be declining toward support price.

CROP INSURANCE MOVIE

A movie trailer will be used to push sales of wheat crop insurance this summer and fall. The 90-second trailer will be provided for showing on the screens of local motion picture theaters in counties where winter wheat insurance is sold. FMA fieldmen and county agricultural conservation committees will arrange for showing the trailers. Local advertisers or crop insurance agents are possibilities for sponsors.

The film shows how unavoidable disasters can strike a good crop and then how a smart farmer can cover every hazard with crop insurance. Orders for the film by Northeast States are as follows: New York, 18; New Jersey, 5; Pennsylvania, none.

MEAT SLAUGHTER UP  
BUT STILL BELOW '45

The first week without OPA controls brought a sharp increase in meat production under Federal inspection but the output was still 38 percent below the same week a year ago. Production for the week ended July 6 totaled 149 million pounds, a gain of 24 percent above the preceding week. Slaughter of cattle jumped 41 percent and hogs 32 percent.



**NATIONAL SCHOOL  
LUNCH PROGRAM**

This Act, known as Public Law 396 of the 79th Congress, authorizes Congress to appropriate funds for a permanent School Lunch Program by the U. S. Department of Agriculture.

For the past 11 years the Department has administered a similar program on a year-to-year basis. The funds will be used to assist States in "the establishment, maintenance, operation, and expansion of nonprofit school lunch programs." The money will be given as grants-in-aid to States to reimburse schools for food and equipment purchases.

Appropriation. For the year 1946-47 Congress has appropriated \$75 million of which \$10 million are earmarked for equipment. The money will be apportioned to the States according to the number of children between the ages of 5 and 17, inclusive, enrolled in school and the per capita income of the States as related to that of the United States.

Matching Requirement. The law requires that the Federal funds accepted by a State be matched dollar for dollar until 1951. At that time, and until 1955, the State contribution must be increased to \$1.50 for every Federal dollar. After that the State must provide \$3.00 for \$1.00 from the Federal Government. However, in the case of a State whose per capita income is less than that of the U. S., the matching required for a fiscal year may be decreased by the percentage which the State per capita income is below that of the per capita U. S. income.

Eligibility. Nonprofit school lunch programs in both public and nonprofit private schools are eligible for Federal assistance. Application is made to the State Department of Education or other State agency designated by the Governor. In States that cannot disburse Federal funds to nonprofit private schools, the State PMA office will handle their applications.

Operating Requirements. Schools enter into a contract with the State agency and agree to meet certain requirements in the operation of the program. The lunch must be available to all children in the school regardless of their ability to pay, and without discrimination.

Reimbursement is made to the school according to the type of lunch served and the number of children participating in the program. The meals of teachers, employees, or other adults eating in the school are not included in the calculation for reimbursement.

Reimbursement for Food. The school that has entered into an agreement purchases food locally and then makes a claim for the allowable amount of money. The maximum rate of reimbursement is 9 cents for the Type A or complete lunch. If the school does not have the facilities to prepare and serve a complete meal it may contract to serve the Type B lunch which is less adequate nutritionally. In this case the maximum reimbursement is 6 cents a lunch. The type C, which consists of only one-half pint of whole milk as a beverage, may be chosen by schools that have no lunchroom facilities at all. The rate of reimbursement is 2 cents.

Reimbursement for Equipment. Schools needing aid in the purchase of equipment for the preparation, storing, and serving of food for the lunch program should write to the State agency for an application for this purpose. Assistance in the purchase of equipment may be had whether or not money for food has been received. However, the school must agree to meet all operating requirements such



(School Lunch Program - continued)

in serving an A or B lunch, providing the lunch for all of the children regardless of their ability to pay, and using foods that are designated as abundant. The application must be approved prior to purchase if reimbursement is to be made. The amount of money finally approved may be for the anticipated cost of the equipment or it may be for a part of it, depending on the circumstances and the degree of need.

Expenditures by the School. The school with the help of the community provides for the payment of all other expenditures necessary for the operation of the program. Sometimes the income is derived from local and State taxes and more often from contributions made by individuals and civic groups. Services as well as money are donated to school lunch programs. Since the program need not provide a lunch free of charge to be eligible for Federal assistance a small amount may be charged the children as long as those who are unable to pay the full charge are not prohibited from participating in the program. The money derived from these various sources may be counted toward matching the Federal funds, which the law requires. A reasonable value may be put on goods and services that are donated to the program, exclusive of commodities which have come from the U. S. Department of Agriculture.

Foods Distributed by the USDA. From time to time the Department of Agriculture will have foods available through its direct distribution programs. Schools will be given an opportunity to request these foods for use in their lunch programs. Schools may or may not receive cash assistance in order to be eligible for these commodities. They may be preserved for future use in school lunches or served as soon as received.

Reports and Records. Schools participating in the National School Lunch Program submit a monthly report of operations on a simple form. They also make a claim for the funds to which they are entitled and send this to the State agency at the same time that the report is due. Records of food purchases, inventories, and other pertinent information must be kept at the school in support of the reports. Such records are in the interest of a businesslike operation.

COUNTY ASSOCIATIONS MAY  
TRAIN VETERANS UNDER GI BILL

County Agricultural Conservation Associations may establish, where they care to, an on-the-job training program for returned veterans to enable the returned veteran to immediately begin earning an income which he would otherwise be qualified to earn due to his loss of experience on the job while serving in the armed forces.

In order to assure the veteran of such an income, the law provides that the Veterans Administration will pay subsistence allowance not to exceed \$65 per month for a single person or \$90 per month for a married person, which will supplement the amount of pay received by the veteran from his employer while training for a particular job.

\* \* \*

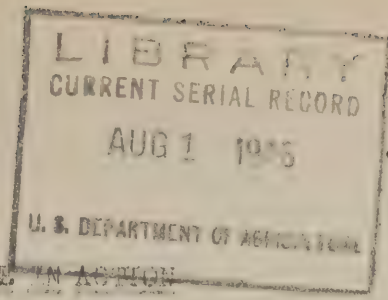
(Agriculture in Action - Issued weekly and distributed in the Northeast to State PMA Committeemen, State offices of PMA; Farmer Fieldmen, County offices in Mass., Conn., Penna., N.J., and N.H.; County Committeemen in N.J., Penna., N.H. and R.I.)



Ad 4 Agr

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United States Department of Agriculture  
Production and Marketing Administration  
Field Service Branch, Northeast Region  
Washington 25, D. C.



July 24, 1946

AGRICULTURE IN ACTION

Dear Committeemen:

The information included in this letter is to assist you in the administration of Production and Marketing Administration programs and provide understanding of related actions.

*Q. W. Manchester*  
A. W. Manchester  
Director, Northeast Region

**RECORD WHEAT, CORN CROPS AHEAD** Record-breaking crops of both corn and wheat are indicated for 1946, says a Department of Agriculture special mid-month report. Since July 1 prospective production has increased by 42 million bushels for wheat and by 146 million bushels for corn.

This is the first report in which 1946 wheat prospects have exceeded last year's record crop.

The report is based on an estimate of probable production for important producing States -- 12 States where about 75 percent of all corn is normally produced, and 18 States, including Pennsylvania in the Northeast, where about 86 percent of the winter wheat and 96 percent of all spring wheat is produced. July 1 estimates were used for other States.

**DAIRY OUTLOOK GOOD** Price returns to dairymen for the rest of this year are practically certain to average higher than for the last half of 1945, according to the Bureau of Agricultural Economics. Even if price controls are re-established, the groundwork for higher returns was laid during June when ceiling prices were increased for fluid milk and several dairy products.

Without price controls, dairy product prices will advance enough to more than make up for the loss of dairy production subsidies which in the last half of 1945 accounted for about 18 percent of the price received for milk and 30 percent of the price for butterfat.

BAE in its latest report on the dairy situation also comments:

- Milk production is likely to stay at near-record volume for the last half of 1946.
- Dairy product-feed price ratios are favorable compared with other livestock-feed price ratios.
- Prices of dairy cows advanced sharply in recent months. The mid-June average price of \$130 per head was the highest in 37 years of record and \$6 above June 1945.
- Ice cream output this year has been nearly twice that of a year earlier.

**12 WHEAT INSURANCE APPLICATIONS RECEIVED IN PENNSYLVANIA** Thirty-two applications have been received to date from Pennsylvania farmers for insurance on their 1947 wheat crop, although the sales campaign has not yet started. New York's campaign will be underway August 1 and New Jersey's about August 10.



NO WHEAT QUOTAS OR  
ALLOTMENTS FOR 1947

Expected wheat supplies in this country balanced against world-wide grain requirements make wheat marketing quotas and acreage allotments unnecessary during the 1947-48 production and marketing season.

This decision was reached by Secretary of Agriculture Anderson, acting within provisions of the Agricultural Adjustment Act of 1948. The Act provides for the proclamation of quotas and allotments if necessary to stabilize wheat prices for farmers and also assure a stabilized agriculture for consumers.

Farmer referendums on the adoption of marketing quotas are called when the total supply of wheat exceeds a normal year's domestic consumption and exports by more than 35 percent. This 135 percent figure applied to the 1947-48 crop year is estimated at 1,239 million bushels. The estimated supply of wheat for 1947-48, including both crop and carryover, is expected to be less than that figure.

In view of the world food situation, the Department of Agriculture had previously asked farmers to increase their 1947 wheat acreage by about one percent. The national goal is 71,700,000 seeded acres for 1947 harvest. This would be the largest acreage since 1938.

Marketing quotas were adopted for both the 1941 and 1942 wheat crops in referendums which resulted in at least two-thirds majority favorable votes as required by the AAA law. Acreage allotments, which can be proclaimed by the Secretary of Agriculture, were in effect from 1938 through 1942. Demands during the war years removed the burdensome surpluses of 1941 and 1942, and neither acreage allotments nor marketing quotas have been in effect for the last 4 years.

CONTINUE RESTRICTIONS  
ON GRAIN FOR BEER

Representatives of brewing industries were held at a hearing at the Department of Agriculture on July 17 that restrictions on the use of grains in the production of alcoholic beverages will be continued so long as there is a shortage of grains for domestic and foreign food.

While the use of grains for beer was reduced 30 percent under War Food Order 66 government reports show that the production of beer was reduced only 20 percent during March, April and May. This year's production of beer has been running at an annual rate of about 70,000,000 barrels, compared with production of about 55,000,000 barrels in 1940-41. Production in 1945 was 86,500,000 barrels.

The hearing was held at the request of the Labor and Beverage Association of America, who asked relaxation of the Government order reducing the use of grain by 30 percent in the production of beer. Representatives of the Friends Committee on National Legislation and of the WCTU urged that the restriction be continued.

The restriction was put into effect March 1 as part of the grain conservation program restricting the use of grains by millers, feed and food processors, distillers, and brewers. The restrictions have helped the Government meet its grain export commitments to famine countries.

In connection with charges that there have been heavy imports of beer into the United States, a USDA spokesman stated that imports during March, April and May were only one-half of one percent of domestic production.



# R. M. EVANS ADVISES MORE GRASSLAND

"Every practical farmer knows that he has got to build back the fertility of the soil." The words are those of

R. M. Evans, former AAA Chief and now a member of the Board of Governors, Federal Reserve System. Interviewed over a national radio network, Mr. Evans said:

"At this particular time, farmers should produce all they can. The world needs food and needs it very badly. But I do not believe it would be a wise policy for farmers to break up any more of their grassland. In fact, one of the things they are going to have to do just as soon as they possibly can is to get more of their land back into grass, so that it can be rehabilitated. The fertility drain, as a result of the very heavy cropping, has taken a lot out of the soil, and it is going to have to be replaced."

Asked what farmers should do with any extra money they may have now, the former AAA Chief said: "The best thing any farmer can do with his money at present is to put it in government bonds and keep it there until he can purchase whatever he needs at reasonable prices."

## LIME ORDERS FROM COUNTIES STILL SLOW

Through July 12 approximately 79 percent of the estimated tonnage of lime had been ordered through county offices for use in connection with the 1946 Agricultural Conservation Program. The goal for June 30 was 100 percent and Vermont reported 98 percent and New Hampshire, 94 while the other Northeast States varied from 68 to 85 percent ordered. Deliveries July 12 by suppliers were reported to be 54 percent with two weeks to go to meet a goal of 68 percent delivered by July 31.

State reports follow:

State	Estimated Tonnage	Orders Rec'd From County Office	Percentage Ordered	Deliveries Made	Percentage Delivered
Me.	80,350	62,204	77%	53,487	81%
N.H.	38,700	36,303	94	28,105	73
Vt.	61,398	60,052	98	53,983	88
Mass.	72,730	53,484	74	42,539	58
R.I.	8,844	6,041	68	5,212	59
Conn.	57,164	46,259	81	36,377	64
N.Y.	730,617	524,178	72	363,078	50
N.J.	58,045	45,330	78	39,082	67
Penna.	730,988	618,288	85	371,950	51
Total	1,838,836	1,453,139	79	993,813	54

## STATES REVISE 1945 ACP PAYMENT ESTIMATES; 91% CERTIFIED FOR PAYMENT

Ninety-one percent of the total 1945 ACP payments estimated were approved for payment through July 12 in the Northeast. The amounts certified and revised estimates follow:

State	Revised Estimate	Amount Certified	Percentage
Maine	\$ 300,000	\$ 274,191	91.4%
New Hampshire	42,565	42,250	99.3
Vermont	172,011	165,011	95.9
Massachusetts	259,832	256,448	98.7
Rhode Island	11,853	11,853	100.0
Connecticut	183,060	113,394	61.9
New York	1,829,050	1,564,380	81.1
New Jersey	841,616	834,574	99.2
Pennsylvania	1,850,000	1,741,106	89.3
Regional Total	\$ 5,489,987	\$5,003,207	91.1



**JUNE HATCHERY PRODUCTION** Commercial hatchings of chicks during June were the **SMALLEST SINCE JUNE 1937** smallest since June 1937, the USDA Bureau of Agricultural Economics reported this week. Most hatcheries were closed during the month and those that operated used only a small part of their capacity.

The number of chicks hatched during June totaled 55,845,000 chicks -- 70% less than the large hatch of 183,681,000 in June last year and 53% below the June 1940-44 average hatch of 119,667,000 chicks.

Demand for broiler chicks was fairly strong in June but hatcheries were reluctant to increase production due to the continued uncertainty of the feed situation. Fairly uniform declines from June 1945 occurred throughout the country in the number of chicks hatched, eggs in incubators and chicks booked. A total of 560,443,000 young chickens of this year's hatchings were on farms July 1 - 15% less than a year ago. The number of young chickens on farms decreased 3% from June 1 to July 1 this year, compared with an increase of 6% last year.

State & Div.	Chicks Hatched During June			Chicks Hatched Jan. to June Inc.		
	Average 1940-44	1945 Revised	1946 Preliminary	1945 Revised	1946 Preliminary	
Maine	923	1,350	162	7,262	5,219	(figures shown in units of 1,000)
N.H.	1,335	3,190	1,499	17,448	14,283	
Vt.	186	211	93	1,117	1,122	
Mass.	1,882	3,575	1,001	24,247	17,760	
R.I.	260	369	129	2,769	1,787	
Conn.	2,211	3,636	982	21,735	15,769	
New Eng.	6,796	12,331	3,866	74,573	55,940	
N.Y.	2,106	4,037	525	26,440	18,949	
N.J.	2,033	3,910	1,008	26,883	20,406	
Penna.	5,753	9,407	4,150	59,858	52,480	
Mid. Atl.	9,892	17,344	5,363	113,231	91,835	
E.N.C.	33,644	51,874	19,144	321,943	260,020	
W.N.C.	38,623	45,191	9,863	371,462	311,293	
So. Atl.	13,462	25,622	10,189	165,066	124,043	
So. C.	9,692	13,994	3,209	129,931	110,511	
Mount.	2,082	2,849	408	17,600	13,343	
Pac.	5,476	11,480	5,483	54,514	55,831	
U.S.	119,667	183,681	55,845	1,269,390	1,022,866	

Chicks Hatched to Date by Commercial Hatcheries - U.S.							
Month	1945 Revised	1946 Prelim.	% 1946 1945	1945 Revised	1946 Prelim.	Change from 1945 Number	Percent
Jan.	55,452	46,036	- 17	55,452	46,036	- 9,416	-17
Feb.	111,437	116,799	+ 5	166,889	162,835	- 4,054	- 2
Mar.	268,232	260,623	- 3	435,121	423,458	-11,663	- 3
Apr.	339,469	340,493	---	774,590	763,961	-10,639	- 1
May	310,119	203,070	- 35	1,084,709	967,021	-117,688	-11
June	183,681	55,845	- 70	1,268,390	1,022,866	-245,524	-19

**RECORD NUMBER OF LITTLE PIGS SAVED** A record proportion of pigs was saved from 1946 spring litters, the Department of Agriculture pointed out in its recent pig crop report. The average saved was 6.47 to the litter, compared with 6.3 in 1945 and a 10-year average of about 6.1. Specialists say this good record was due to: favorable weather during farrowing time; wider use of electric brooders, sloping floors, and guard rails in farrowing quarters; more rigid culling of breeding hogs and saving sows with good past records; and advance in knowledge of how to cope with disease and practices promoting herd health.



## VEGETABLES FOR PROCESSING TO BE PLENTIFUL

Vegetables for canning and freezing promise to be plentiful this fall and winter, according to preliminary acreage reports. Plantings this year include: Plantings of green lima beans - 76,500 acres, 14 percent above 1945 planted acreage and 42 percent above the 1934-44 average; production of snap beans in 1946 is indicated at 207,900 tons -- 6 percent less than the 1945 production, but 42 percent above the 1935-44 average; average planted to tomatoes -- estimated at 617,000 acres, 8 percent above 1945; cabbage for kraut - 19,880 acres, 6 percent above last year; green peas, 617,000 acres, 8 percent higher than 1945; beets - 18,600 acres, 9 percent below 1945 planted acreage, but 4,260 acres higher than the 1935-44 average.

## 1945 ACP PROGRESS REPORT FOR JUNE

The summary of State office reports of progress on the 1945 Agricultural Conservation Program and enrollments in the 1946 program are shown below for the Northeast Region.

	Report of Performance			Applic. for Payment			Farms Enrolled		
	Est. Part.	Farms Rep't'g Perf.	% Reporting Perf.	Est. Total Appl.	Rec'd State Office	% Rec'd	1946	1945	1946
State	Fams.								of 1945
Me.	11,938	11,938	100.0	3,149	3,129	99.4	13,267	12,637	105.0
N.H.	5,601	5,601	100.0	914	905	99.0	6,879	5,834	117.8
Vt.	13,195	13,195	100.0	2,495	2,478	99.3	11,521	13,261	86.9
Mass.	10,334	10,334	100.0	4,157	4,114	99.0	10,016	10,451	96.0
Conn.	5,346	4,905	91.7	2,002	1,590	79.4	5,350	5,632	95.0
R. I.	964	964	100.0	302	290	96.0	902	964	93.6
N.Y.	73,642	73,642	100.0	23,030	19,837	86.3	78,578	77,219	105.0
N.J.	11,619	11,578	99.6	9,825	9,711	98.8	13,034	12,994	100.5
Penna.	102,592	102,592	100.0	31,306	30,182	96.4	97,996	103,773	94.4
Total	235,231	234,749	99.8	77,180	72,236	93.7	238,543	242,747	98.3

## SCHOOL LUNCH PROGRAM AGREEMENTS

National School Lunch Program agreements from 15 States, including New York and New Jersey in the Northeast, have been received by the U. S. Department of Agriculture.

Nonprofit school lunch programs in both public and nonprofit private schools are eligible for Federal assistance.

Of those signed or negotiating, 15 States have indicated they will handle funds for both public and private schools. Another 17 States have indicated their laws permit handling funds for public schools only. Other States are studying their laws and as yet have not indicated to the Department in what manner they will be able to participate in the School Lunch Program.

In States prohibited by law from disbursing Federal funds to private schools, the State Offices of Production and Marketing Administration will handle the school lunch applications from non-profit private schools.

## 452 TOBACCO INSURANCE

### SALES IN HARTFORD COUNTY

Under the trial tobacco insurance program offered farmers in Hartford County, Connecticut, 452 applications were sold on the 1946 crop covering about 483 farms.

About 97 percent of the 920 tobacco farms were contacted by 19 agents, 18 of which were community committeemen. Tobacco insurance in Hartford County offers protection from hail, drought, flood, wind, frost, winterkill, lightning, fire, excessive rain, snow, wild life, hurricane, tornado, insect infestation, plant disease, pole burn, except where loss due to wind, lightning, fire, hurricane, or tornado occurs after harvest.



**POTATO PURCHASES** Through July 22 potato purchases by the Department of Agriculture to support the market price, amounted to 186 cars on Long Island and 99 in New Jersey. Purchase representatives reported 100 cars of bulk potatoes purchased in Suffolk County and 82 in Nassau County, Long Island. Four cars graded and sacked were purchased also in Nassau County. In New Jersey bulk purchases were made as follows: Monmouth County, 38 cars, Cumberland, Gloucester, Camden, and Salem Counties, one car; Middlesex County, 28 cars; Mercer, 14 cars. Eighteen cars graded and sacked were purchased in Mercer and Middlesex Counties.

The principal outlet for the bulk potatoes is for the manufacture of alcohol while the graded potatoes will be distributed for human consumption.

**BEET PURCHASE PROGRAM APPROVED** A program to purchase surplus topped beets in Pennsylvania, New Jersey, New York, Connecticut, and Massachusetts has been approved by the Fruit and Vegetable Branch, PMA. Purchases will be made through August 31, 1948. Distribution of the beets will be to eligible institutions or in school lunches.

Production of beets for summer harvest in New Jersey and Pennsylvania is estimated at 747,000 bushels as compared with 693,000 bushels last year. In Pennsylvania where harvesting is now at the peak, estimated production of 432,000 bushels is 12 percent larger than last year and 18 percent above the 10-year average. Other northeastern States for which production estimates are not available are also harvesting at this time. The reaching of peak harvestings in the more important northeastern producing areas at this time has resulted in an apparent temporary surplus, of serious importance to those growers whose crops are now reaching harvest maturity.

**THE TOBACCO GROWERS TURN OUT TO VOTE FOR MARKETING QUOTAS** Ninety-seven percent of the flue-cured tobacco growers in the States of Florida, Georgia, North and South Carolina and Virginia voted July 12 in a referendum favoring marketing quotas for the three years 1947 - 1949. Of the 230,077 votes tabulated in the referendum, 97.1% favored marketing quotas for the three years. An additional 1.2% favored quotas for 1947 only and 1.7% were opposed to any quota.

In July 1943, in a similar referendum, 87.8% of the 143,510 growers voting favored quotas on the 1944, and 1946 crops; 3.1% voted for quotas for 1944 only; and 9.3% were opposed to quotas.

**U.S. DIET REPORT CITES 37 YEARS** Among striking changes in American food habits in the 37 years from 1909 to 1945 have been a 400 percent increase in consumption of citrus fruit and a 30 percent decrease in potatoes and grain products. These facts were disclosed in an analysis of the United States' food supply for that period released July 17 by the USDA.

During the recent war years, food for American civilians contained more calcium, iron, B vitamins, and vitamins A and C than at any other time in the 37-year period. Important factors in bringing about these nutritional gains were high consumption of milk, eggs, meat, poultry, vegetables, and fruit, and the enrichment of white bread and flour. Nutritive values are for foods as brought into the kitchen. No allowance is made for cooking losses or for edible food thrown away or left on plates. All figures are national averages and do not reveal the wide variations that exist among different sections of the country and different incomes.



Radio Transcription  
A. W. Manchester, Director  
Northeast Region, Field Service Branch  
Production & Marketing Admin. USDA  
July 25, 1946 - 6:15 a.m.  
Station WBZ - Boston, Mass.

There's at least one food that harried consumers can turn to in this period when lots of prices are skyrocketing and supplies ebb and flow speculatively in the markets.

That food is potatoes.

This is a year of lots of potatoes and mostly good potatoes. The price of potatoes is being held up to a stable, modest level by price support, so that prices change but little.

As a result, the consumer can rely on getting plenty of good potatoes at a moderate price.

Of course, nobody wants to live on potatoes alone but potatoes do make a good foundation for a diet. It's nice, at least from the consumer point of view, to have that foundation steady and firm.

So far, it's been a year of big potato yields. The average yield this year for all the early potato States, where the harvest is practically over, has been nearly one and one-half times the 10-year average. Potatoes in the intermediate States are still being dug, but the last official estimates indicated that they would go at least 20 percent above average and the late potato crop looks promising at present.

This year's high yields are undoubtedly largely attributable to good growing weather. A good many people have been guessing that the use of DDT in sprays would push yields to new levels. I don't have any information as to how general the use of DDT is this year or as to how it is working out. It does seem possible, however, to account for most of the high yields so far on other grounds.

The big crops have forced the Government into very extensive buying to carry out the price support commitments. More than a week ago, over 15,000 carloads had been purchased.

It has been possible to divert some of those purchased to State institutions, etc. for use as human food. By far the greater part, however, have had to be sold to industrial plants for use in manufacturing. This entails a substantial loss to the Government, but averts disaster from potato growers.

For those who are not thoroughly familiar with operations of this sort, I should explain that in order to assure adequate production of potatoes during the war, growers were promised price support. Then Congress passed legislation instructing the Department of Agriculture to support for two years after the close of the war the prices of those farm products which farmers had been asked to raise more of. This particular piece of legislation is called the Steagall Amendment.



Radio Transcription (continued)

The potato purchase program this year is under the direction of that law. It will apply for at least two years more, as the war is not yet officially over.

The very large scale of purchases required by this year's crop has raised in many minds the question of whether the continued operation of price support programs like this will be possible on an unlimited scale. Or will it be necessary to restrict the support in some way or other to quantities more or less in line with the demand?

As far as I know, Congress has, as yet, given no indication of its probable attitude on the question.

Fortunately, in one sense, food needs and demand are so great that the issue of over supplies has not for the last few years been pressing in connection with most of the price supported products. The Government has been a large purchaser, but usually to satisfy needs, not to keep prices up.

Now potatoes are forcing the general problem to the fore. It is likely to be one of the central issues in agricultural policy over the next few years.

In a broad way, it amounts to this -- when we are faced with production so large that it will naturally force prices at those fair levels and then take steps to keep production within bounds, or shall we let prices sink to the point where they will themselves drive down production?

The answer to that question will have much to do with deciding the whole level of income and living on American farms in the future.

\* \* \*

Agriculture in Action -- Issued weekly and distributed in the Northeast to State PMA Committeemen, State Offices of PMA; Farmer Fieldmen, County Offices in Mass., Conn., Penna., N.J., and N.H.; County Committeemen in N.J., Penna., N.H., and R.I.)



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U. S. DEPARTMENT OF

AGRICULTURE IN ACTION

3  
Dear Committeemen:

The information included in this letter is to assist you in the administration of Production and Marketing Administration programs and provide understanding of related actions.

*A. W. Manchester*

A. W. Manchester

Director, Northeast Region

"WE HAVEN'T YET BEGUN"—DAVIS Can our farmers produce all the food a prosperous America wants? Yes, declares Chester C. Davis, Chairman of the President's Famine Emergency Committee, in a recent article in the New York Times.

"We haven't yet begun to use our soil resources to their best advantage in the United States," Davis, who headed up the AAA in its early years, said. He lists several conservation objectives which also are objectives of the Agricultural Conservation Program now in its 11th year of operation under the administration of farmer committeemen:

- Good grass should be growing on hundreds of thousands of hills and slopes which are now row-cropped but are too steep for safe farming.
- The air is full of nitrogen which the soil needs and we have the plants that will put it there.
- Limestone deposits are nearly everywhere, and most of our farm lands badly need lime.
- We have enormous deposits of phosphate rock in the Northwest that have never been touched, and yet much of our pasture and cropland is starving for phosphates.

Discussing the possibilities of better soil use, Davis declared: "We have enough idle capital and the potential labor in this country to build a revolution in farming methods, and bring new vitality and vigor to our soil and to the people who live on it."

"Across the middle and southern belts, all-year-around pasture systems capable of feeding vastly increased numbers of livestock can be maintained. Now capital invested in complete programs of soil and water management pays rich returns in increased production and lower unit costs."

\* \* \*

—While the UNRRA mission chief in Poland reports that the food crisis has eased, no effort can be spared to continue the import rate that prevailed in June until the new harvest becomes available. Widespread hunger was averted by the arrival during June of 77,000 tons of grain from the U. S., Canada, and Argentina and 21,000 tons of rye and barley from Russia.



PMA COMMITTEEMEN OF FOUR  
STATES TO MEET IN MAINE

State PMA Committeemen, State Directors and Assistant Directors from Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont, and Massachusetts will meet August 5 and 6 in the vicinity of Rockland, Maine, with the Director and Assistant Director of the Field Service Branch, Dave Davidson and C. B. Hodges, respectively.

The meeting is to give State Committees a better understanding of the organization as now constituted and to discuss the major changes in the Agricultural Conservation Program and its administration. A. W. Manchester, Northeast Regional Director and C. Ely Wickham, Chief of Program Operations will represent the Northeast Regional Office.

SHARP INCREASES IN PRICES  
FARMERS RECEIVED AND PAID

Sharp increases in prices received by farmers during the month ending July 15 pushed the general level of farm prices received to 244 percent of the 1909-14 level — 9 points higher than any previous month in the 37 years of record.

While prices paid by farmers also increased, the parity ratio (prices paid vs. prices received) jumped 7 points above June 15 to 123 which was 3 points above a year ago.

The Department of Agriculture reported the principal increases in prices received were for cotton, grains, meat animals, poultry and eggs, and dairy products. Part of the increases resulted from the discontinuance of subsidies as of July 1.

Contributing to the advance in prices received was a 17-point rise in the index of crop prices and a 34-point rise in the index of prices for livestock and livestock products. The total increase was the largest ever recorded for one month.

CERTIFICATE PLAN SET UP  
FOR PRODUCERS WHO SOLD  
WHEAT UNDER WFO 144

In accordance with the Price Control Extension Act, wheat producers who were required to sell wheat under provisions of War Food Order 144 between May 23, 1946, and July 1, 1946, can get a certificate from the Commodity Credit Corporation under which they may choose a later date to determine the sale price of such wheat.

Only producers who were required to sell wheat under WFO-144 are eligible to apply for certificates. Under WFO-144, elevators purchasing such wheat were required to set aside half of it for the government.

Producers will be required to furnish evidence, prior to August 25, that wheat was sold under the requirements of WFO-144 and to pay to the CCC the amount for which the wheat was sold.

Evidence of sale and payment to CCC must be made through County Agricultural Conservation Committees. Producers will be given a certificate requiring the CCC to pay the market price for the wheat sold as of any date the producer elects prior to April 1, 1947. A producer may not choose a date prior to the date that his notice is given.

Producers wishing to participate in this program may obtain details from County Agricultural Conservation Committee offices. Detailed information will be sent to these offices as soon as possible.



**WORLD FOOD PROSPECTS  
FOR 1946-47**

Improved crop conditions indicate a ~~considerably larger~~ world food production in 1946-47 but below the prewar average, the Department of Agriculture reports. The total world food supply will still be uncomfortably low, however, because of this year's sharp reduction in carry-over.

Trouble spots are in several Far Eastern areas, where the food situation continues to deteriorate. Many are expected to die of starvation before the fall rice crop is harvested. Even if limited food supplies continue moving to these areas, insufficient transportation will prevent complete relief of famine conditions.

In prospect, are (1) a world wheat crop considerably larger than in 1944-45, (2) a rye crop substantially below prewar although above last year's short crop, (3) a somewhat larger sugar crop, (4) edible fats and oils far below prewar levels, and (5) larger supplies of feed for livestock.

**POULTRY AND EGGS  
SUPPLIES WILL HOLD UP**

At least as many eggs will be available for U. S. consumers during the last half of this year as in the second half of 1945 and there will be about as much turkey and slightly less chicken.

The civilian supplies will hold up despite smaller poultry and egg marketings than a year ago because of reduced Army buying and large cold storage holdings, according to the Bureau of Agricultural Economics.

Cold storage holdings of shell eggs on July 1 were the largest in 14 years except for 1944 and were 3.6 million cases above July 1, 1945.

**CRISIS OVER?  
LOOK AT CHINA**

More food and medical supplies plus the means of distributing them are needed to alleviate the critical situation of 10 million persons in South Hunan and North Kwangsi provinces of China, according to a report by UNRRA investigators now surveying the famine areas of China.

"There are now an estimated six million persons in Kwangsi province and 10 million more in South Hunan province who are rapidly becoming physically weakened as a result of acute starvation," the report states. "Generally speaking, these people are too poor to help even those who are more destitute than themselves. There is not now enough stored food available at any price within these provinces to meet immediate needs."

Agricultural surveys in South Hunan indicate that only 60 to 80 percent of the crop will be harvested, depending on the intensity of the drought. Other factors which will cause a low yield are lack of buffalo as draught animals, seed, irrigation, labor and insecticides. These conditions probably will prevail to some extent next year also.

In North Kwangsi, only 25 percent of the normal crop is planted. Reports indicate that malaria is epidemic in Kwangsi and that relapsing fever, dysentery, cholera and many other infectious diseases are present in large numbers.

The Chinese National Relief and Rehabilitation Administration in both provinces is attempting to administer relief, but supplies are inadequate. Food and medicine available meet only a small percentage of requirements for those in acute need. Greatest difficulty in receiving supplies, observers report, results from lack of adequate transportation and the military situation.



## FARMER CHICKENS RAISED ON FARMS

A total of 677,166,000 young chickens were raised on farms in the U. S. in 1946, the smallest number since 1943 according to a preliminary estimate by the Bureau of Agricultural Economics. This number is 18% less than was raised in 1945 and 5% less than the 1935-44 average. The estimate is based on reports as of June 1, obtained by rural mail carriers from about 110,000 farms and supplemented by later information obtained from crop and livestock correspondents and commercial hatcheries.

The number of layers on farms June 1 was the lowest since 1942 and was 4 percent less than a year earlier. Hatcheries continue to produce an increased proportion of the chickens raised on farms. Returns on June 1 showed that 87% of the chicks are coming from hatcheries this year, compared with 72% in 1940.

The following tabulation prepared by the Production and Marketing Administration shows a comparison of relative numbers of hens on farms by States July 1, 1946 and July 1, 1945, as a percent of preceding January 1 numbers for that year:

State	1946 (percent)	1945 (percent)	1942-45 avg. (percent)
Maine	47.0	67.9	68.4
New Hampshire	46.5	71.5	70.1
Vermont	54.5	63.7	70.0
Massachusetts	52.3	73.8	72.8
Rhode Island	54.9	60.9	68.3
Connecticut	52.5	64.0	67.9
New York	64.0	64.4	72.2
New Jersey	52.4	52.5	65.5
Pennsylvania	64.0	58.1	67.1
Northeast Region	59.0	61.8	69.0
North Central Region	68.2	71.8	69.5
East Central Region	65.0	65.7	65.0
Southern Region	69.0	72.1	70.2
Western Region	69.2	73.9	73.8
United States	66.9	70.2	69.7

**LUMBER OUTPUT CLIMBS** Gradually climbing lumber production since the first of the year has enabled the Civilian Production Administration to forecast lumber production for this year of 32 billion board feet. If attained, total would surpass by two billion board feet the estimates made last January.

However, the 32 billion figure is five billion feet below the 1946 requirements. Work stoppages, lack of replacements for wornout equipment, or similar unpredictable events might force a downward revision of the forecast. Lumber production for May was estimated at 3,073,575,000 board feet, the first time since August 1944 that the monthly total had exceeded the three billion foot level.

May production was 6.4 percent greater than that of April and 10.4 per cent above May 1945.

## LIME MOVES BY BARGE

Barges on the Mississippi River are now hauling limestone for use under the Agricultural Conservation Program.

The first barge shipment of lime on the upper Mississippi was made in early summer from Cordova, Ill., near Moline. The shipment was destined for Beardstown, Ill., 388 miles away on the Illinois River. The 4-barge shipment of 5,100 tons was equivalent to the lime which could be hauled by a 100-car train, it was estimated.



OVER 600 CARS POTATOES  
PURCHASED IN N.Y., N.J.

According to the latest reports, 344 cars of bulk potatoes have been purchased in New Jersey and 18 cars of potatoes graded and sacked. Long Island reports 251 cars in bulk and 8 cars of graded potatoes purchased by the Government to support the market price.

The Long Island purchases were: in Nassau County, 137 cars including 8 cars graded and sacked; Suffolk County, 122 cars. New Jersey purchases were as follows: Monmouth County, 109 cars; Mercer, 91 including 8 graded; Middlesex, 46 including 10 graded; Burlington, 11; and Cumberland, Salem, Camden, and Gloucester, 5.

TRACTOR EXPORTS LIMITED

The Civilian Production Administration has limited the exportation of wheel type tractors to 15 percent of total production and track-laying tractors to 20 percent.

Export restrictions on these types of farm machinery had been dropped late in 1945 when production was expected to be large enough to supply both foreign and domestic needs, the CPA stated. But production this year has been less than expected so exports are now restricted once more.

To assure that tractors will be exported to the areas of greatest need, one-half of the wheel-type tractors to be exported and one-quarter of the track-laying type will be set aside for UNRRA until their agricultural rehabilitation program has received 13,500 wheel and 1,000 crawler-type tractors.

JULY SET-ASIDE FOR  
EVAPORATED MILK CANCELLED

The U. S. Department of Agriculture has announced that the requirement that manufacturers set aside 50 percent of their evaporated milk produced in July for sale to Government agencies will be cancelled. However, the Department will consider competitive offers of evaporated milk packed for Government agencies in accordance with the July set-aside obligations now being cancelled.

Other provisions of the evaporated milk order (WFO-148) continue in effect, and all manufacturers will be expected to complete delivery of their June set-aside obligations of 60 percent at not more than the price ceilings in effect on June 30. Most manufacturers have delivered or contracted to deliver their June set-aside obligations at June ceiling prices.

The action to cancel the July set-aside requirements is being taken in view of the general increase in evaporated milk and other dairy prices during July, the uncertain situation regarding price control and subsidies, and a reduction in the total Government requirements from twelve to nine million cases. The Department has contracted for approximately six million cases. Any sales of evaporated milk to Government agencies in excess of the June set-aside requirements will be credited against any set-aside requirements that may be established later.

\* \* \*

---The USDA announced July 26 that the eligible sales period of the 1946 canned and frozen vegetable subsidy programs, which was previously announced as being terminated on June 30, 1946, has not been extended beyond that date. The terminal date for filing applications for payment remains November 30, 1946.



INVESTMENT BEGINS  
AT HOME . . .

Many farmers may find it more profitable to improve the land they already own by applying lime and fertilizer to restore depleted soil resources than to buy additional acres, according to the Department of Agriculture.

With land prices at high levels in most areas, money spent for improving or stabilizing farm income frequently will bring better returns than the purchase of additional land.

Since the increase in farm production during the war has taken heavy toll of soil resources, expenditure for conservation materials to restore and increase the productive capacity of these farms is a sound investment.

Practices developed in recent years to build up pastures demonstrate that money spent for pasturage improvement can materially stabilize and increase the farm income. Assistance for carrying out conservation practices is provided under the Agricultural Conservation Program.

COUNTY COMMITTEEMEN MAY  
NOW SELL CROP INSURANCE

State recommendations that county committeemen be permitted to sell crop insurance and receive commissions, as in the case of other agents, has been favorably considered and State Committees are authorized to permit such action subject to limitations imposed by the State Committee.

A county committeeman may not receive commission for sales made in the office or for sales made on a day for which he receives compensation as a county committeeman.

1945 ACP PAYMENTS

Payments to producers for participation in the 1945 Agricultural Conservation Program for the period ending July 19, 1946, totaled \$5,157,970 certified in the Northeast Region and represented 94.6% of the total payments estimated.

Individual State certifications follow: Maine, \$275,863 - 100%; New Hampshire, \$42,247 - 99.3%; Vermont, \$165,011 - 95.9%; Massachusetts, \$256,449 - 98.7%; Rhode Island, \$11,853 - 100%; Connecticut, \$138,433 - 82.4%; New York, \$1,669,744 - 91.3%; New Jersey, \$840,900 - 99.9%; Pennsylvania, \$1,757,470 - 95%.

GRAIN DEALERS NO LONGER  
REQUIRED TO OFFER  
EXCESS WHEAT TO CCC

The USDA announced today that the provision of War Food Order 144, requiring country shippers and merchandisers to offer "excess wheat" to the CCC at the close of market each week, will be suspended today, July 31, 1946, by Amendment 14. Formerly all wheat stocks, not allocated for export or restricted domestic use, were offered to CCC for a two-day period at the end of each week. In the absence of ceiling prices on wheat it is considered impracticable to require shippers to continue weekly offers.

DRY EDIBLE BEAN  
SUBSIDY TERMINATED

The Department of Agriculture has announced discontinuance of subsidy payments on dry edible beans effective 12:01 a.m. July 28, 1946. Approximately 150 dealers entered into agreements with the CCC. The program has been in effect since September 1943.

\* \* \*

—World export supplies of oils and oilseeds will increase in 1947 but will still be substantially below prewar supplies, according to BAE. European output of fats and oils may recover some but U. S. production will be less than in 1946.



Radio Transcription  
A. W. Manchester  
Director, Northeast Region  
Field Service Branch - FMA  
Station WBZ - Boston, Mass.  
August 1, 1946 - 6:15 a.m.

This is a report of farm conditions in the Northeast as I saw them in a last weeks trip over much of the area.

As a whole, it's a good year. There may be some who will rise up to challenge that statement -- like poultrymen who were forced to sell their hens for lack of grain, or farmers plagued by war scarcities not yet overcome. But by and large, it's a pretty good year.

Crops appear to be good or better, the farm work is ahead of the last few years, and markets and prices in the main are holding up. The one big cloud on the horizon is soaring prices of the things farmers buy. But, at the moment, that cloud isn't blotting out the sun.

As to the crops, for the farms as a whole, the outstanding bright spot is the fine quality of the hay. This has been a good year for hay making, nearly everywhere. The job was comparatively easy and is now far along. The barns are full of the kind of hay that will make milk next winter without a lot of grain feeding. That's important.

The dry weather that made good haying had been drying up the pastures and preventing growth on the cut-over fields. The moderate rains of last week were pretty general and gave hope for better pastures ahead, if more come along at fair intervals.

The drought, by the way, had gotten pretty bad, particularly in New Hampshire and central Maine. But that is past, at least temporarily.

The potato crop looks good just now. The acreage is continuing to tilt to the north -- Pennsylvania raising less each year and Maine more.

It would probably be more accurate to say that potato growing is still moving from the general farming areas like Pennsylvania, up-State New York and Vermont, to the specialized regions, like Aroostook County, Long Island, New Jersey, and smaller sections in all States -- Potter County in Pennsylvania, Steuben County in New York, the Connecticut Valley, and parts of Rhode Island.

That movement, by the way, is from the places where yields are low to those where they are high. It means more potatoes per acre.

They are digging potatoes in New Jersey and Long Island. The yield is pretty well settled there. The quality to date has been excellent, with yields somewhat above average.

But farther up the crop is still to be made. It has all sorts of possibilities. In Aroostook there was practically no blight when I was there. DDT was being generally used and the crop looked fine. I don't know whether it has any significance but the bloom is tremendous. The potato fields are one great bouquet.



It could be a record crop there or it could be just an ordinary one. There is chance enough of a big crop so that we ought to get ready for one. And getting ready is a story by itself.

The poultry business isn't dead. Grain shortage hurt it badly in places but it is already on the way back. In New England, many of the hens were sent to market two or three months earlier than usual, but the pullets are coming along. There may not be quite the normal number of pullets but the poultry business will go on.

In Eastern New York and New Jersey, there was also some forced culling, but Pennsylvania has increased its number of hens, and New York, as a whole, is holding up well. There may be disturbing shortages of local eggs in New England for the next month or two, but the general supply of eggs should be adequate.

The slow, down-trend in Northeastern dairying seems likely to continue for quite awhile yet -- perhaps for years. It's the result of many things. Difficulty in getting good dairy labor is a part of it. This drives now and then some of the larger farms or the older men out of business. It has less effect on the general family farms.

Grain prices have soared to high but erratic levels. This presses hardest on the farms that haven't developed the ability to feed their cows mainly from their own acres. In certain areas there is heavy purchasing of farms for summer or year-round homes. These farms are usually lost as sources of milk.

The farmers on the small marginal farms who got a job in industry during the war are still keeping the job or hunting for a new one. Their farms are homes, now, not farms.

All these things, and others, are factors in this dairy down trend. It's very slow but it is likely to mean milk shortages this fall, unless demand should fall off sharply.

I didn't get onto vegetable and fruit farms enough to justify a report. They always have ups and downs at this time of year and are having them just now. Something very remote from the farmer -- sugar shortage -- is the biggest threat that fruit farmers face. People don't buy as much fruit without sugar. But the crops, as a whole, are pretty fair and there's ground to hope for a reasonably good year.

This is a transition year, from war-time farming to peace-time farming. It looks like a good year. What lies beyond depends on the kind of peace that we come through to. If we win a peace of full employment and high standards of living in this country, our farms will share in that prosperity. And if we win a peace of friendly relations between nations so that goods move easily from one country to another any farm surpluses that we develop will be no longer liabilities to us but will mean a more abundant diet to those who live in the lands of chronic hunger.

\* \* \*

(Agriculture in Action -- Issued weekly and distributed in the Northeast to State PMA Committeemen, State Offices of PMA: Farmer Fieldmen, County Offices in Mass., Conn., Penna., N.J., and N.H.; County Committeemen in N.J., Penna., N.H., and R.I.)